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EXECUTIVE ORDER

By authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the United States of America, in order to ensure that U.S. Government cryptographic activities are conducted with due regard to potential impact on the national security, it is hereby ordered that:

- l. Federal government activities regarding cryptography, specifically the conduct of cryptographic research, the development, evaluation, endorsement and publication of cryptographic techniques and products, and the establishment of national and international standards, must be carried out in a manner consistent with national security. To this end, such cryptographic activities undertaken by the Federal government will be reviewed and coordinated through a central authority.
- 2. The Secretary of Defense will be the Executive Agent of the U.S. Government for cryptography and will be responsible for:
- a. reviewing and approving government research, development, evaluation, and endorsement of cryptography, including cryptographic standards, used in the storage and transmission of electronic information and telecommunications;
- b. acting as the government focal point for evaluating and endorsing U.S. cryptographic products and techniques developed by the U.S. Government or private sector for domestic or international use;
- c. designating, if appropriate, other government departments or agencies to carry out cryptographic activities covered by this Order.
- 3. Heads of all Federal departments and agencies shall coordinate all cryptographic activities involving research, development, evaluation, endorsement, or publication, with the Secretary of Defense before initiating such activities.
- 4. The Director of the National Security Agency will execute the responsibilities charged to the Secretary of Defense in this Order.
- 5. Nothing in this Order is meant to alter or diminish the authorities or responsibilities of the Director of Central Intelligence or the Central Intelligence Agency, including but not limited to those set forth elsewhere in statutes, Executive Orders, National Security Council Intelligence Directives, or Presidential directives. The CIA will continue to have the exclusive authority to obtain, develop, fabricate and deploy cryptographic products and techniques pursuant to and in support of its intelligence activities under Executive Order 12333 or successor Orders.

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